

AUG 07 2007

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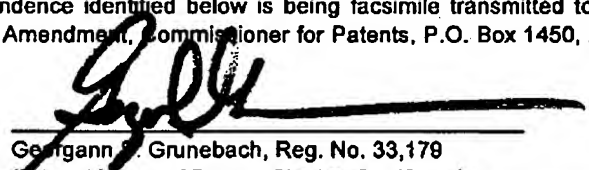
Attention:	MAIL STOP AMENDMENT Group Art Unit: 2616 Examiner: JUNG, Min	Fax:	(571) 273-8300
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		Phone:	(571) 272-3127
Pages:	Cover + 5 + 1 = 7	Date:	August 7, 2007
From:	Georgann S. Grunebach	Fax:	(310) 964-0941
	Assistant General Counsel	Phone:	(310) 964-4615

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Georgann S. Grunebach, Reg. No. 33,179
(Printed Name of Person Signing Certificate)August 7, 2007
(Date of Signature)**Attention: Commissioner for Patents****Attorney Docket No. PD-200226**

Please find attached Re:

Serial No.: 10/038,174

Filing Date: January 3, 2002

- INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (5 pages)
- SUBSTITUTE PTO FORM 1449 (1 page)

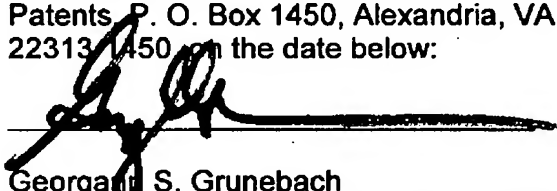
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The DirecTV Group, Inc., CA/LA1/A109, P. O. Box 956, El Segundo CA 90245

AUG 07 2007

Patent
PD-200226
Customer No. 020991

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Leon J. Stanger et al. : I hereby certify that this correspondence is
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Serial No.: 10/038,174 : addressed to:
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Group Art Unit: 2616 :
Examiner: JUNG, Min : Date: August 7, 2007

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97 (b)(4)

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P. O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

The references cited on the enclosed form substitute 1449 form may be relevant or material to the examination of the above-identified patent application and are, therefore, submitted in compliance with the duty of disclosure defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.56.

The following allowed claims in related patent application serial number 10/192,960 filed July 10, 2002 are further brought to the Examiner's attention:

1. (Previously presented) A system for null packet replacement in a broadcast data stream comprising:

a global scheduler for receiving data containing null packets from a broadcast source;
a plurality of self-managed queues in communication with said global scheduler;

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means for implementing a data management policy for each self-managed queue in each of said plurality of self-managed queues wherein said policy has predefined rules for handling data to be communicated to said global scheduler, a predetermined self-managed queue ~~is identified~~ identifies itself to said global scheduler as being available for service at said global scheduler when said predefined rules of said data management policy have been met;

means for implementing an order of service policy in said global scheduler for determining the order each self-managed queue that has presented itself to the global scheduler as being serviceable will be serviced by the global scheduler, said order of service policy for said global scheduler being separate and distinct from each of said data management policies for said self-managed queues, data from said predetermined queue will replace the null packets in the broadcast data stream with background data thereby defining a modified broadcast data stream upon service of said self-managed queues by said global scheduler;

a receiver serving at least one client and receiving said modified broadcast stream through said global scheduler from said predetermined self-managed queue.

2. (Original) The system as claimed in claim 1 wherein said data management policy further comprises a set of rules internal to each queue whereby each queue is capable of determining when to present itself to said global scheduler for use by said global scheduler independent of each of the other queues and said order of service policy for said global scheduler.

3. (Original) The system as claimed in claim 2 wherein said data management policy further comprises a classification of data in said queue to be communicated to said global scheduler from said predetermined queue.

4. (Original) The system as claimed in claim 3 wherein said order of service policy is priority based and dependent on said classification of data.

5. (Original) The system as claimed in claim 1 wherein said order of service policy is round-robin for each queue in said plurality of queues.

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6. (Previously presented) A method for null packet replacement in a broadcast data stream comprising the steps of:

receiving data from a broadcast source at a global scheduler, the data containing null packets, the global scheduler being in communication with a plurality of self-managed queues;

applying a data management policy in each self-managed queue, the data management policy being unique to each self-managed queue and having a set of predefined rules for determining a status of each self-managed queue, the self-managed queue assigning a "ready-to-run" status and a "not-ready-to-run" status to themselves depending on the set of predefined rules in its respective data management policy;

communicating the status of each self-managed queue to the global scheduler;

applying an order of service policy at said global scheduler for determining the order to service each self-managed queue presenting itself to said global scheduler with a "ready-to-run" status, thereby defining a queue available for service at said global scheduler;

obtaining data from each queue available for service;

replacing null packets in the broadcast data stream with data obtained from each queue available for service.

7. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 6 wherein said step of applying a data management policy to each self-managed queue further comprises each self-managed queue independently determining its status regardless of the status of other queues.

8. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 6 further comprising the step of assigning a classification to data in each of said self-managed queues.

9. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 8 further comprising the step of using the assigned data classification in the order of service policy in the global scheduler.

10 (Previously presented) A method for replacing null packets in a broadcast data stream comprising the steps of:

checking the status of a self-managed queue in a plurality of self-managed queues at the self-managed queue;

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announcing a "ready-to-run" status of a self-managed queue by the self-managed queue to a global scheduler;

considering a self-managed queue announced to the global scheduler as a "ready-to-run" status in a decision making analysis at said global scheduler for replacement of data;

replacing null packets in the data stream with data in the "ready-to-run" self-managed queue considered by the global scheduler;

announcing a "not-ready-to-run" status of a self-managed queue by the self-managed queue to a global scheduler;

re-checking the status of the self-managed queue after a predetermined amount of time until the self-managed queue identifies itself to the global scheduler as "ready-to-run."

11. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 10 wherein said step of announcing a "ready-to-run" status further comprises the step of applying a data management policy having a predefined set of rules for handling data, the "ready-to-run" status being announced upon the predefined set of rules being met; and

said step of announcing a "not-ready-to-run" status further comprises the step of applying a data management policy having a predefined set of rules for handling data, the "ready-to-run" status being announced upon less than all of the rules in the predefined set of rules being met.

12. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 11 further comprising the data management policy for each queue in the plurality of self-managed queues are independent of each other and not dependent upon the order of service policy for the global scheduler.

13. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 10 wherein the data in the queues to replace null packet data is background data in the broadcast data stream.

14. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 10 further comprising the steps of:

assigning a classification to the data in a "ready-to-run" self-managed queue; and
applying the data classification to the order of service policy used by the global scheduler.

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This statement should be considered because it is submitted before the mailing of a first Office action after the filing of a request for continued examination under §1.114 and therefore it is believed that no fee is due with this submission under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(4).

If a fee is due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-0383 of Hughes Electronics Corporation, El Segundo, California.

This Information Disclosure Statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has recently been made, that additional information material to the examination of this application does not exist, or that this citation constitutes prior art.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 

Georgann S. Grunebach, Reg. No. 33,179

The DIRECTV Group, Inc.
CA/LA1/A109
2230 E. Imperial Highway
P. O. Box 956
El Segundo, CA 90245

Telephone No. (310) 964-4615

August 7, 2007

AUG 07 2007

Substitute for form PTO/SB/08A INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT	Complete if Known	
	Application Number	10/038,174
	Filing Date	January 3, 2002
	First Named Inventor	Leon Stanger
	Art Unit	2616
	Examiner Name	JUNG, Min
Date:	August 7, 2007	
Sheet 1 of 1	Attorney Docket Number	PD-200226

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.	Document Number Number-Kind Code	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		US-5,625,743	04-1997	Fiocca, James L.	
		US-5,337,041	08-1994	Friedman, Lorri	
		US-3,843,942	10-1974	Pierret et al.	
		US-2002/0173864	11-2002	Smith, Shawn W.	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.	Foreign Patent Document Country Code-Number-Kind Code	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.